

Message Text

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ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-13 EUR-12 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 ACDA-07 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

OMB-01 DHA-02 ARA-06 /089 W

-----251646Z 104701 /46

O P 251321Z MAR 77

FM AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2641

INFO AMEMBASSY ACCRA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MBABANE PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY MONROVIA PRIORITY

UQMNI/AMEMBASSY NAIROBI PRIORITY 1087

AMEMBASSY LAGOS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L ABIDJAN 3032

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CG, AO

SUBJECT: SUPPORT FOR MEDIATION OF ZAIRE-ANGOLA
DISPUTE

REF: STATE 066446

1. IVORIAN FOREIGN OFFICE, AS WELL AS ALL SENIOR LEVELS

OF GOIC, WILL BE COMPLETELY TIED UP UNTIL MONDAY,
MARCH 28 WITH OFFICIAL VISIT OF PRINCE CHARLES WHO
ARRIVES ABIDJAN THIS AFTERNOON. IVORIANS THEREFORE WILL
NOT REPEAT NOT BE ABLE TO FOCUS ON MEDIATION OF ZAIRE-
ANGOLA DISPUTE, OR CONSIDER SERIOUSLY HOW THEY MIGHT

SUPPORT SUCH MEDIATION, UNTIL NEXT WEEK.

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2. WE ARE ALSO CONCERNED THAT INITIATIVE ON

OUR PART TO PERSUADE IVORIANS TO PUT PRESSURE ON GHANA

MIGHT BE INTERPRETED BY THEM AS ATTEMPT BY USG TO DUCK

THE ISSUE RATHER THAN GENUINE EFFORT TO PROMOTE SUCCESSFUL

MEDIATION. IVORIAN GOVERNMENT IS INDEED DEEPLY DIS-

TURBED ABOUT EVENTS IN ZAIRE AND SENIOR IVORIAN OFFICIALS

HAVE EXPRESSED TO US THEIR GRATIFICATION THAT WASHINGTON HAS ACTED PROMPTLY TO EXPEDITE SHIPMENTS OF MATERIAL REQUESTED BY MOBUTU TO RESIST ANGOLAN INCURSION. IN THESE CIRCUMSTANCES WE SUSPECT THAT RESPONSE TO OUR DEMARCHE WILL BE THAT US IS IN BETTER POSITION THAN IVORY COAST (OR GHANA) TO ASSURE SATISFACTORY OUTCOME OF ZAIRE-ANGOLA DISPUTE BY MEDIATION, BY EFFECTIVE ZAIRIAN SECURITY MEASURES OR A COMBINATION OF BOTH.

3. KEY POINT TO BEAR IN MIND IN THIS CONNECTION IS THAT GOIC IS LOOKING TO US TO SUPPLY LEADERSHIP IN RESOLVING ZAIRE-ANGOLA DISPUTE AS WELL AS OTHER AFRICAN PROBLEMS WHICH PRESIDENT HOUPHOUET-BOIGNY BELIEVES ARE BEING AGGRAVATED BY AGGRESIVE SOVIET POLICIES. THE IVORIANS WILL JOIN WITH US IN SEEKING SOLUTIONS WE BOTH DESIRE BUT WILL BE SENSITIVE TO ANY IMPLICATION THAT US SUPPORT FOR "AFRICAN SOLUTIONS TO AFRICAN PROBLEMS" MEANS LESS THAN FULL US ENGAGEMENT TO COUNTERBALANCE SOVIET/ CUBAN INFLUENCE IN CENTRAL AND SOUTHERN AFRICA.

4. IN MAKING OUR APPROACH TO THE IVORIAN FOREIGN MINISTRY, WE WILL THEREFORE PEG OUR COMMENTS TO FIRM PUBLIC SUPPORT ALREADY EXPRESSED BY THE SECRETARY FOR NIGERIAN MEDIATION EFFORTS AND TO RECENT US EFFORTS TO PROVIDE MATERIAL SUPPORT FOR MOBUTU. IT WOULD BE HELPFUL IN THIS CONNECTION IF DEPARTMENT COULD PROVIDE US BEFORE MARCH 28 WITH FURTHER INFORMATION WHICH WE COULD SHARE WITH IVORIANS ON HOW US SESS SITUATION UNFOLDING, HOW FAR NIGERIANS HAVE ACTUALLY GOTTEN IN THEIR DIPLO-CONFIDENTIAL

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MATIC ACTIVITY AND WHAT WE CONSIDER TO BE SOVIET/CUBAN ROLE IN ZAIRE-ANGOLA DISPUTE. STEARNS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
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Concepts: FOREIGN INTEREST REPRESENTATION, NEGOTIATIONS, INVASIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 25-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770103-0189
Format: TEL
From: ABIDJAN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770324/aaaaauco.tel
Line Count: 99
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
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Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
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